

BROKERS WORLDWIDE NEWSFLASH

Royal Mail: Court Blocks Strike Action

October 12, 2007

The Royal Mail strike action that was scheduled to take place on Monday and Tuesday, October 15th and 16th, was blocked today by The High Court. The High Court granted the Royal Mail with an injunction to stop members of the Communication Workers Union (“CWU”) from striking at sorting and delivery offices. A legal requirement of the strike is for the CWU to provide the Royal Mail with accurate figures for the number of staff that would be affected by the strike. Although the CWU insists that the scheduled strike was legitimate, the Royal Mail claimed that they did not receive accurate numbers.

As previously reported, in addition to the two 48-hour strikes which took place over the past week, the CWU announced that they would also start a rolling program of strikes to begin on October 15th and continue weekly until the dispute is resolved. Despite the injunction blocking strike action on Monday and Tuesday, some Royal Mail employees, such as drivers, may still strike later in the week (please refer to the schedule* below). According to the Royal Mail, the injunction covers all of the UK.

Talks continue to take place at the TUC in London in an attempt to resolve the dispute, but there has still been little progress towards a solution.

* According to the CWU, the schedule of planned 24-hour strikes includes:

- October 15th from 6:00pm BST: Mail sorting offices and airports (blocked by the injunction)
- October 16th from 3:00am BST: Deliveries and collection hubs (blocked by the injunction)
- October 17th from 12:00pm BST: Royal Mail drivers
- October 18th from 12:00pm BST: Manual data entry centers
- October 18th from 2:00pm BST: Heathrow world distribution centre

Brokers Worldwide Customers

During the strikes, Brokers Worldwide will continue to collect UK-bound mail from our customers. Although the mail will reach the UK in the same amount of time as before, mail services within the UK will be subject to delay, as the Royal Mail will handle the backlog in date order. Brokers Worldwide will continue to monitor this situation, and will provide our customers with updates as they become available.

Regards,
Brokers Worldwide
1.800.MAIL.287 (624-5287)
www.brokersworldwide.com

For up-to-date news on international hotspots that may affect the delivery of your mail, please log on to www.brokersworldwide.com and follow the “News & Info” link to “Global Hot Spots”. For your convenience, the Hot Spots can be sorted by either Country or Date.